

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2007

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, on March 13, 2007, I was unavoidably absent and missed rollcall vote 140. For the RECORD, had I been present, I would have voted: 140—"yea."

ALTERNATIVE SPRING BREAK

HON. BARBARA CUBIN

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2007

Mrs. CUBIN. Madam Speaker, with spring upon us, college students across the Nation are trekking to our Nation's coastal areas in search of sunny skies and sandy beaches. Yes, Madam Speaker, spring break is upon us.

Often, this collegiate ritual is typified by moral abandon and excesses of many types. However, today it is my pleasure to highlight several students from the University of Wyoming who visited the Nation's Capital to take part in an entirely different spring break experience.

Last week, eight students traveled here from Laramie, Wyoming, to take part in an up-and-coming program known as "Alternative Spring Break." Here in Washington, they spent their days not sightseeing or sunbathing like many of their peers, but volunteering with the National Coalition for the Homeless.

Their week included long days spent working to serve homeless individuals and learning about the special needs of this all-too-frequently overlooked population of needy Americans.

Students like Amanda Blair, Jonathan McBride, Mackenzie Mixer, Lydia Bustos, John Ellis, Amber Johnson, Bailey Loghry, Jonathan Ingebrigtsen, Amber Pace, Brynn Hvidston, and their coordinators Robyn Paulekas at UW and Michael O'Neill of the National Coalition for the Homeless, are role models for people of all ages.

These students will undoubtedly now have spring break memories to last a lifetime. They deserve all the respect and praise this noble body can give.

HONORING FORMER CONGRESSMAN THOMAS KLEPPE

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2007

Mr. POMEROY. Madam Speaker, our Nation lost a great American and this House lost

a most distinguished former Member with the passing of Thomas Kleppe at age 87 on March 2, 2007. Tom Kleppe was elected from the 2nd district of North Dakota in 1966 and 1968.

Tom was probably best known to the Nation for his service as Secretary of the Interior under President Ford, however he was best known to his home State of North Dakota for his service in Congress from 1966 to 1970. Tom was a trailblazer in North Dakota, being elected as the youngest-ever mayor of Bismarck at the age of 30 and the first native of North Dakota to ever serve in a Presidential cabinet when he was appointed Interior Secretary in 1975.

Tom exemplified the definition of the "Greatest Generation," having served his country as a warrant officer in the U.S. Army for 4 years during World War II. Shortly before being honorably discharged in 1946, Tom turned down an offer from the St. Louis Cardinals to return to his native North Dakota, and our State is the better for it.

As the son of homesteaders in Kintyre, ND, Tom was instilled with the enterprising spirit and work ethic that have made North Dakota prosper. By the time he was a teenager, Tom was working for his father's grain elevator business. He went on to work in bookkeeping and banking before entering public service, where he served as the mayor of Bismarck and later served two terms in the U.S. House of Representatives. There Tom was known as a strong advocate for North Dakota's farmers and ranchers on the Agriculture Committee.

Kleppe was appointed to head the Small Business Administration by President Nixon, a post he held from 1971–1975, when President Ford appointed him Interior Secretary. Tom served in this position for the remainder of Ford's term. During his tenure, Kleppe proved an able steward of the Nation's land and wildlife. Even long after moving to Washington, DC, Tom never lost touch with his prairie roots, and continued to ride horses well into his 80s.

Tom is survived by his wife of 48 years, Glendora Kleppe, and his 4 children, 11 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren. The State of North Dakota mourns the loss of a great public servant.

PEACE IN THE TAIWAN STRAIT

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2007

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, 2 years ago, China enacted an anti-secession law which "gave" China the right to overtake Taiwan by force. Since then both Taiwan and the United States have asked China to rescind the law. So far China has ignored all pleas. Instead, it has increased its number of guided missiles deployed along the coast of Taiwan, threatening war anytime. In addition, China

has prevented Taiwan from participating in international organizations such as the World Health Organization and heightened its bellicose rhetoric against the democratically-elected Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian.

As a rising world power, China must assume the responsibility of a global leader. It must lessen the tensions in the Taiwan Strait by rescinding the bad anti-secession law which has deeply hurt the feelings of the Taiwanese people. China should also reduce its military presence along the coast of Taiwan and learn to respect the wishes of the Taiwanese people.

I urge my colleagues to give Taiwan our support. Taiwan is a democracy and an ally of the United States. Under the framework of the Taiwan Relations Act, we must make sure that peace and stability continue to prevail in the Taiwan Strait.

HONORING THE CHICAGO ACADEMY FOR THE ARTS

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 20, 2007

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today with the great privilege of honoring the Chicago Academy for the Arts. In September of 2006, the Chicago Academy for the Arts received the Creative Ticket National Schools of Distinction Award from the Kennedy Center's Alliance for the Arts Education Network. In addition to this notable award, on Saturday, March 24, at 6 p.m., the students from this institution will have the rare honor and distinction of performing on the Millennium stage in the Kennedy Center. This is a great moment in these students' young lives, where all of their hard work has paid off so rewardingly.

This award represents the culmination of 25 years of practical and academic training in the fine arts. The academy is the only independent secondary school in Illinois that offers specialized training in dance, music, theatre, musical theatre, and visual arts. Their mission is to prepare young artists for life through rigorous academic education and professional arts training. To anyone from Chicago, it comes as no surprise that this high school was among only two high schools in the Nation to receive the honor. The school was also named the State's top arts school in March 2006 by the Illinois Alliance for Arts Education, which is in the Kennedy Center Alliance. This prestigious institution has consistently produced outstanding students with an immense talent and commitment to the arts. Daily, the 160 students complete a rigorous, 5-hour academic day in English, mathematics, foreign language, history, science, and social studies. They then move on to 3 hours of learning about the theory, history, and technique of the student's chosen art discipline, taught through intensive classroom and studio work under the direction of exemplary arts professionals. The

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